

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace Paragraph [0012] as published with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

One type of known column protector comprises a metal shield which is bolted to the, typically concrete, floor at the base of a column, and shields the column from impact by transmitting the impact force down through the floor, and having an air gap between the metal shield and the column. However, such column protectors require penetrating expansion bolts, which compromise the integrity of the concrete floor, and over time are subject to degrading or working loose. Further, on impact, they are prone to buckling and bending, or the bolts are ripped out of the concrete when subject to impact from a vehicle or MHE[[]]. They are also time consuming to replace when damaged, and replacement can be made more difficult where the bolts have sheared or bent, or have damaged the concrete floor. Replacement of a single protector can take up to 25 minutes. Examples of such protectors are found in U.S. Pat. No. 5,369,925.

Please replace Paragraph [0123] as published with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

Thirdly in a modification of the device, a polycarbonate member in the form of an outer cover 1001 which fits over the outside of the outer shell, or in the form of an elongate strip 1002 which slides down between the front member of the rack upright and the inner liner can be provided. The polycarbonate strip serves the purpose of detecting impacts which exceed the design impact for which the column protector can safely absorb energy without the need to replace a column, or the polycarbonate

member can be selected to detect impacts of an energy which will not significantly damage the column, but may require replacement of the column protector device after having absorbed such an impact. The polycarbonate member can be inspected for cracks or other damage which indicates that column replacement or column protector replacement is necessary, and such inspection can be achieved either by direct visual inspection of the polycarbonate outer cover, without the need to remove the column protector from its column, or where provided as a strip, by sliding the polycarbonate strip from between the inner liner and the column for visual inspection, again, without the need to remove the column protector from the column.